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-	Process it through ICRS at your nex meeting and get it into the appropria mission targeting:	t ite
	Report the action status at the next COMIREX meeting for the Committee's information and inclusion in the Minutes.	
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EXECUT	TIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDE	
OFFIC	CE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	
	WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506	
	April 6, 1970 This document consists of pages No of Coples, Series	
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MEMORANDUM FOR		
	Chairman, COMIREX	25
SUBJECT: KH-4 Cover	rage of Selected Areas of the United States	
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-	r KH-4 coverage of the Gulf Coast and Florida	
	Task Group charged with improving the response ent to natural disasters.	
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	makes an excellent data bank of pre-disaster	
-	ch post-disaster aerial photography can be the extent and severity of the disaster area.	
-	ability to collect against nonintelligence require-	
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

March 30, 1970 Date:

Subject: KH-4 Coverage of Selected Areas of the United States

Chairman, Committee for Imagery Requirements and Exploitation (COMIREX)

Via: Chairman, ARGO Steering Group, OST

Shortly after Hurricane Camille, the Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and the Director of the Office of Science and Technology, Executive Office of the President, agreed that there would be many advantages in developing coordinated interagency procedures for the rapid utilization of remote sensing systems and technology for timely effects assessment of severe domestic natural and man-made disasters.

The ARGO Steering Group, OST, was requested to initiate a task group (with representation paralleling that of the ARGO body) to develop and recommend procedures and mechanisms for "alerting," aerial photo coverage acquisition, photographic interpreter pool, command channels, pre-disaster data base development, etc.

The National Disaster Support Task Group has met regularly since February 17, 1970 at the USGS Special Projects Office at Reston, Virginia, addressing itself to the procedures described above. From the outset, the group recognized the critical requirement for a readily available pre-disaster photographic data base. Such material, along with other graphic data, including photography, maps, etc., are prerequisite to the comparative (pre- and post-) analysis essential to timely damage effects assessment.

Accordingly, examination of present holdings of KH-4 material (because of its unique synoptic and tremendous informational content) has been undertaken. Available coverage of the U. S. over principal disaster-prone areas appears generally adequate in terms of areas and dates of coverage. The major exception is the hurricane-prone Gulf Coast area shown on the attachment. The area shown represents present gaps in existing KH-4 coverage.

It is requested therefore, that early acquisition planning efforts be initiated to obtain KH-4 coverage of as much of this area as possible before onset of the hurricane season (mid-Summer). It is understood this material will not be obtained in competition with National Intelligence Objectives.

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This requirement represents the combined interests of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce (ESSA and C&GS), Interior (USGS), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Corps of Engineers.

Your cooperation in this matter is very much appreciated.

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Chairman

National Disaster Support Task Group

Attachment

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